

III. REMARKS

A. Brief Summary of the Pending Claims

When the Office action was issued, claims 1-20 were pending in the application. The Office action subjected claims 1-20 to multiple requirements for restriction and election of species.

The above amendment cancels claims 1-20 and adds new claims 21-28. Thus, after the above amendment is entered, claims 21-28 will be pending in the application.

B. Remarks Regarding Restriction Requirement

The Office action required restriction between the several allegedly distinct claimed inventions. This restriction requirement has been obviated by the cancellation of the pending claims, and introduction of new claims.

C. Election of Species

In response to the requirement for a provisional election of species, applicants elect species I as described in the Office action, this species being illustrated in FIG. 1 of the application. Claims 21-26 and 28 read on this species. Independent claims 21 and 28 are generic because they read on more than one species.

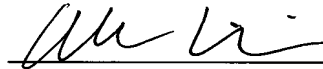
D. Conclusion

The Office action set a shortened statutory reply period of one month, expiring on July 28, 2005. This reply has been filed within this period.

Any fees required for this reply, the above amendments, or any other fees necessary during the prosecution of this application now, or in the future, may be charged to the undersigned's deposit account no. 03-1129.

If any issues remain to be resolved in the application before allowance, the examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew J. Ririe
Patent Attorney, Caterpillar Inc.
Registration No. 45,597

Telephone: (309) 636-1974
Facsimile: (309) 675-1236